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Bears

Lame Paw

killing for a long time.

(Page 2) **POCAHONTAS TIMES** Published every Thursday except Antered at the Post Office at Mar-linton, West Virginia, as second

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGES In Pocahontas County \$2.00 a year. Elsewhere \$2.50 a year. In advance. JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1964

> Shay Engine By Bill McNeel

For a brief period of time on bear in his time but mutton town for a number of years- alone fifteen sheep for W. E. a steam powered train on the Poage, and forbore to leave Greenbrier Division of the the vicinity, the neighborhood C&O. The train was short—en- rose up, took a day off and gine and caboose-but full of exterminated Lame Paw, the history of days gone by. The Outlaw. engine was on its way to be. Bears have no recorded land come the fourth engine on the titles. They take up a range roster of the Cass Scenic Rail- and hold it as long as they can. road (and the seventeenth to They hold it for their own use be operated at Cass.) In a way and benefit, all the sundry nuts,

Lima Locomotive Works in 1920 and is an 80 ton, class "C" Shay. The Seven will probably retain her same number at Cass and it is hoped that she will see many more years of useful life on Cheat Mountain.

Walter Good, Clyde Galford and Leonard Long, who work regularly on the Cass Train, made the trip to Rainelle and brought the engine back

The Seven will join the fol-lowing Shay engines already

Number One-built by Lima in 1905, this engine is the second Number One. The 65 ton, class "C" was first used by G. W. Huntley Lumber Company in Greenbrier, then be-lieved used by Flint. Erving and Stover Lumber Company at Thornwood and came to Cass from the North Fork Lumber Company at Notting-ham as a trade for the original, Cass Number One, which was a smaller engine and more suited to North Fork needs.

Number Four-this engine. the second Number Four, was built by Lima in 1922 as an 80, ton, class "C" for Birch Valley Lumber Company at Tioga, and came to Cass in 1943. This engine has pulled the Cass Scenic Railroad train the last two seasons.

Number Five—this 80 ton, class "C" engine came to Cass new after being built by Lima in 1905 and has operated there ever since. This engine has un-dergone extensive repairs and it is hoped she will be ready for use in a few weeks.

These three engines and the one newly arrived make a total of at least seventeen engines used on the logging railroads on Cheat Mountain, Sxteen of these engines have been the Shay type built by Lima Locomotive Works at Lima Ohio. The other engine was also a geared engine but of the Climax type built by Climax Manufacturing Co. of Curry, Pennsylvania. One of the Shays used at Cass, the Number Twelve, was as far as we know the largest ever in existence. She was built in 1921 as a three truck Shay, weighing 164 tons. In 1937 the Cass shops added a fourth truck bringing her weight to around 200 tons. This engine was used until the late 40's and scrapped t Cass in 1955.

the farmers' wrath, for they develop into sheep stealers and they work at night. Strychnine that accounted for the wolves and the panthers is no good against bears for bears are not carnivorous animals, and strychnine does not greatly discommode them Either they strongly to me.

ded him out. Lame Paw was too old and fat to enjoy running but he decided that he would have to waddle his finest if he got to Gauley Moun tain and away from the dogs, men and guns.

He could not do anything with the hounds One good

laws, and it almost causes the ready to fire. preyed upon by the cunning Charles Sheets, James Gibson, old bear, to burst a blood vessel when he reads the foolishness of legislatures that say that they shall not be killed. W. E. Poage, Ross Hamrick, vidual right of the sheep raiser to protect his property? The heroes, Roamy, belonging to only way the bear can pay for James Gibson and Liner, bethe damage he has done is longing to Dallas Tacy. with his meat and hide, and in this country sooner or later, the farmer collects.

Charles Sheets had saved the story of Lame Paw and asked us to reprint it. After sev eral years we here print the first part of the story of the famous bear hunt of 1924. it is well in the forty odd hundred feet. In a way it is one of Five years ago they got one the most spectacular features is going yet. It was part of the toe, and last Thursday, June of the landscape. It has been cleared on the top and forms to have a young raccollected the remainder of the a long mound covered with ing bear handy to draw off Scourge of Elk River, a big blue grass. There is a consider- such dangers as this. black bear that has needed able flat on its top and a few stunted trees show signs of been conferring over the matthe fi ree winds that blow over ter and they know very well He may have been a good the exposed surface. There that the small bear was not last Wednesday, Marlinton was his curse, and by the time have been well authenticated the main object of the hunt. witnessed a sight not seen in that he had killed this spring cases of this height making If it had not been for these visitors there so dizzy that they have fallen prone and

> falling off. The mountain is encircled pose and Lame Paw would have been left with his head farms and it is the center of on his paws brooding over the

tries in West Virginia. County roads enclose it: Starting at Edray and followthis was a homecoming for this berries, nettles. grubs, worms, ing the pike to Linwood, and Shay as she was first used by ants, honey, fish, flesh, and turning there and traversing the Raine Lumber Company to fowl, and when their holdings the road to Clover Creek and supply logs for its mill at Cloule far back in the woods they ver Lick in the 1920's. She was have no particular trouble Warwick and back to Edray the Number Three engine at Clover Lick. In the late 20's she became the property of the Meadow River Lumber Company at Rainelle as their Number Seven and was operated by Meadow River as recently as September of this year.

The engine was built by the Three engine at Clover Lick. In the late 20's edge of the wilderness where the only enemy they fear has cleared and fenced all the delectable lands, they are only taken over by the oldest, boldwest, bears.

These bears become well known and time and again the true trouble was in the Edray as circle of thirty three miles. That day's journey will show a traveler the greenest, grassiest place in the Virginias. When I was in the postal service, it was the constant aim to make that circle around Gibson's Knob a daily rural and the y become the object of route and time and again the

popular member of the com-munity, In some states the bear is protected by the game bear load in his gun and was stop to cuff him off, and Liner

mountain farmer, who is being | The twelve I listed were: tried for crime, and if he can-not be erased with powder and Amos Wooddell, Elmer Hannah ball what becomes of the indi- Roscoe Bennett, sixteen in all.

The standers were placed and the hounds taken to the top of Gibson's Knob, and Five years ago Lame Paw there in the bear wallow was stepped into a steel trap and fresh sign of the bear. The left a toe to show who had hounds were loosed and within been there and the foe was hundred and fifty yards they hung up and after that the big track registered the identity ther from their beds in a Windof the animal. He had been Shake Fall near a laurel patch. making his home on Gibson's Lame Paw's companion in Knob. This is not the highest crime lit out from there as fast peak in these mountains but as he could lay foot to the ground and took with him ten hounds and as far as is known the most spectacular features is going yet. It was part of the

But Roamy and Liner had wise dogs the whole pack held to the grass to keep from after the subservient bear that Lame Paw kept for the purone of the richest grazing coun- endless expanse that surrounds this high lookout.

But Roamy and Liner prod-

and strychnine does not greatly discommode them Either they are able to detect it or they assimilate it without the deadly effect that this poison has on all strictly meat eating animals.

The edges of the forest afford the best range for bears and when one takes to using them he becomes a very unpopular member of the com-He could not do anything Call 799-4082 with the hounds. One good would then fasten on the leg left exposed and the big brute was much harried and distressed

The hounds in the meantime were giving tongue and letting the hunters know the way the game was taking. The bear A bear cannot be indicted and Carl Gibson, French Hoover, circled and ran about two miles until he made his last stand in the rough ground on the south side of Russell Hannah's farm near the passway towards Statyfork.

(To be continued)

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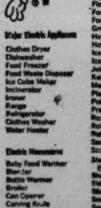
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